

3. Requests to File Documents Under Seal

The Undersigned has adopted a specific procedure that must be followed to obtain permission to file a document partially or fully under seal, which can be found in section II(F)(10) of the Undersigned's Policies and Procedures.

4. Defendant Required to Refile Answer in Removed Actions

If the action has been removed from state court after the filing of an Answer in state court, Defendant must refile the Answer in this Court with the above-cited caption. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 81(c)(2) (stating that "repleading is unnecessary *unless the court orders it*" (emphasis added)).

5. Discovery

- (a) Rule 26(a) Self-Executing Disclosures: All parties are to exchange all Rule 26(a) self-executing disclosures at least seven (7) days before the Initial Rule 16 Pretrial Conference.
- (b) Discovery to Commence: Discovery shall begin as soon as possible and shall not be delayed pending the scheduling of the Initial Rule 16 Pretrial Conference. Discovery is to be well underway by the date of the initial pretrial conference.
- (c) Discovery Disputes: No motions related to discovery—including motions related to subpoenas served under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45—may be filed without the Court's permission. The Undersigned has adopted a specific procedure that must be followed to raise any discovery disputes, which can be found in section II(B) of the Undersigned's Policies and Procedures.³

6. All Other Matters

For all other matters, counsel are to refer to any scheduling orders issued in this case and the Undersigned's Policies and Procedures, which all counsel are required to comply with fully.⁴

So ordered, this 17th day of May, 2021.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Joseph F. Leeson, Jr.
JOSEPH F. LEESON, JR.
United States District Judge

³ *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 16 advisory committee's note to 2015 amendment (recognizing that district courts have the authority to "direct that before filing a motion for an order relating to discovery the movant must request a conference with the court" and that "[m]any judges who hold such conferences find them an efficient way to resolve most discovery disputes without the delay and burdens attending a formal motion").

⁴ <https://www.paed.uscourts.gov/documents/procedures/leepol.pdf>